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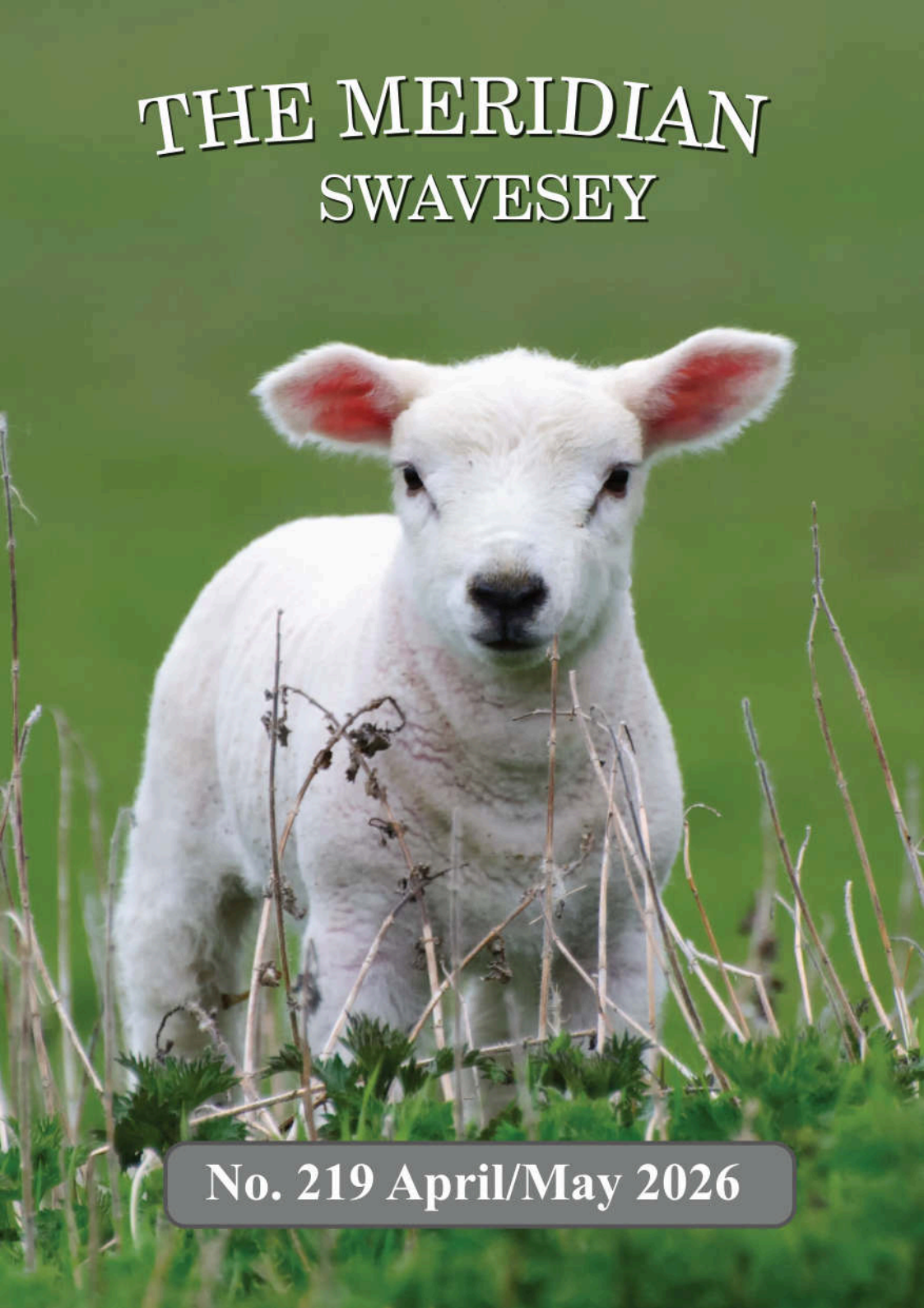
SWAVESEY



No. 219 April/May 2026

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EDITORIAL

I am really sorry to have to say that the Swavesey Meridian Magazine will be closing down at the end of April. Owing to 'administrative difficulties' we are unable to realise money from the adverts and although the GoFundMe income has kept us going for two issues, after this issue there will no funds to continue with the printed magazine or the website. Note, when the website shuts down so will all the (---@swaveseymeridian.org.uk) email addresses. I have set up a Google email at swavesey.meridian@gmail.com should you wish to contact me regarding the Swavesey Meridian Magazine.

There are now only four active members of the team i.e. Myself – Production Manager and reluctant Acting Deputy Editor, the Distribution Manager and his team of distributors and two Proof Readers. I wish to thank all those who have been part of the team.

If anyone wishes to set up a new team to continue with a village magazine for Swavesey then let me know as there is a lot of information that can be passed on and some of the previous team may be willing to assist or even join a new team.

Regards
Alan Morris
Acting Deputy Editor – Swavesey Meridian Magazine
swavesey.meridian@gmail.com

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Major Events List

This list is intended to avoid major events clashing on the same day. It will only work if we are advised of all such events, so please let us know as soon as you can confirm the details.

A form is available at the back of this magazine. We will list them in this section of the Magazine and also on our website at:- www.swaveseymeridian.org.uk

Wednesday 15 April	Parish Council	Annual Parish Meeting - 7.00pm Memorial Hall
Saturday 16 May	St Andrews	10:00: Plant Sale
Sunday 21 June	Spartans Football	Spartans Day
Saturday 27 June	St Andrews	2:00 – 4:00pm: Teddy Bear Zip Wire
Saturday 27 June	Community Orchard	Swavesey Community Orchard BioBlitz
Friday 10 July	The Pantaloons Outdoor Theatre	Sherlock Homes and the Hound of the Baskervilles 7pm at Market st Green - Contact Simon Shore Mob. 07711 485114 Email simonshore99@gtmail.com
Friday 17 July	Stuart Faben - 07887 906982	Beer & Bubbles - 2.30pm at Swavesey Pavilion – The Green
Saturday 18 July	Stuart Faben - 07887 906982	Beer & Bubbles - 2.30pm at Swavesey Pavilion – The Green

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

March		
Saturday 28	St Andrews	Easter Fair with Easter Egg Tombola and Easter Egg Hunt
Monday 30	Refuse Collection	Black Bin Collection (Note Monday 4 days early)
April		
Friday 10	Refuse Collection	Blue Bin Collection
Wednesday 15	Parish Council	Annual Parish Meeting - 7.00pm Memorial Hall
Friday 17	Refuse Collection	Black Bin Collection
Friday 24	Refuse Collection	Blue Bin Collection
Monday 27	Parish Council	Full Council Meeting
May		
Friday 1	Refuse Collection	Black Bin Collection
Friday 8	Refuse Collection	Blue Bin Collection
Friday 15	Refuse Collection	Black Bin Collection
Saturday 16	St Andrews	10:00: Plant Sale
Monday 18	Parish Council	Full Council Meeting
Friday 22	Refuse Collection	Blue Bin Collection
Friday 29	Refuse Collection	Black Bin Collection
June		
Friday 5	Refuse Collection	Blue Bin Collection

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CLUB REPORTS

⚽ Volunteer Treasurer Needed – Help Support Our Grassroots Team! ⚽

We're looking for someone to help us as Club Treasurer.

FA rules dictate that for us to register as a club next season, we must have a treasurer in place, so it's imperative we fill this role if we want the club to continue.

It's a light-touch role and a great way to support the kids and the club behind the scenes.

What's involved?

- Looking after the club bank account
- Tracking subs and allocating transactions
- Paying expenses and invoices
- Attending a short monthly committee meeting
- Helping out at fundraising events
- Year-end FA accounts (support available if needed)

⏱ Just a few hours a month

📊 No finance background required

If you're comfortable with online banking and basic excel and want to give something back to Spartans, we'd love to hear from you. Please contact us via our Facebook page, website or email swavesey.treasurer@gmail.com for more information

It's almost inconceivable that whilst looking out the window on a very drab, cold and wet early February day, that our season will be pretty much wrapped up by the time you're reading this. It's perhaps even more inconceivable that our minds will then turn to organising our annual Spartans Day celebration on Sunday 21st June!

Frustratingly, we are still unable to use the 11 a side pitch on Swavesey green. Remedial works remain ongoing and whilst the start of the year has been very wet, it really is what the pitch needs. It would be great to report back next time that both we and the Swavesey Institute adult teams have been able to fulfil a few fixtures back on home turf.

In more positive news, we have been able to fulfil mini league matches on both the 5 and 7 a side pitches, so football has partially come home!!!

Across the whole club our various teams are holding their own in their respective leagues. With 12 competitive teams, you would expect mixed success, but we remain proud of every single player who pulls on the Swavesey Spartans shirt.

Talking of shirts, the club is always looking for sponsorship for our various teams. The club doesn't attract the revenue to provide every team with new kit on a regular basis and must rely on parent donations or external sponsorship. If you want the opportunity to have your company logo proudly displayed on our shirts, please contact us via our website for more details.

We're still looking for players to join us at U6, U14 and our Ladies team. You may or may not know that we also have an affiliated walking football team. The team meet on Wednesday night at 7:30pm for an hour, so if your regular football days are behind you or your knees, ankles, hips, back etc have given up the ghost, this may be the perfect way to get your football fix. Again, please check our website for details.

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Swavesey & District History Society

January meeting. Thirty-five attended a talk on “The Young Charles Darwin in Cambridge” by Murray Jacobs from Linton. Darwin’s mother was part of the Wedgewood Pottery family and his father was a successful doctor. Charles attended Shrewsbury School as a boarder but hated it and was eventually removed as a failure. Aged 15 his father sent him to Edinburgh University, with his brother Erasmus, to study medicine but Darwin felt queasy at the sight of blood and he left Edinburgh without taking a degree. His father, anxious that he did not become idle, insisted that Darwin take up clerical studies in Cambridge. His name was listed in the admissions book at Christ's College in October 1827 but after spending time being tutored on his forgotten Greek, he eventually entered Christ's in January 1828. All the college rooms were full so Darwin took lodgings over the tobacconist’s in Sidney-street, now occupied by Boot's. A blue plaque under the first-floor windows of Boot's commemorates his stay there. Darwin was content at the thought of becoming a country clergyman since this would provide the freedom required to pursue his growing scientific interests. While at Christ's Darwin became an avid beetle collector. He had a special six-drawer cabinet built to house his collection. He decorated his room with eighteenth-century engravings of master paintings and was a fan of Shakespeare. He enjoyed riding, visiting Kings College chapel and participating in the "Glutton Club". He also spent much time shooting. Darwin became irreversibly devoted to science at Cambridge. His beetles were more than a hobby and his botany and entomology work under his mentor, Professor Henslow, prepared him for a life in science. Shortly afterwards he was taught the rudiments of geology by Professor Sedgwick. It was Henslow who passed on the suggestion to Darwin to accompany Captain Robert Fitzroy on board the voyage of HMS *Beagle* as naturalist and gentleman companion. He sat his BA exam in January 1831 and was astonished to be ranked 10th out of 178 candidates.

His father was strongly against him going on the Beagle voyage and progress was not easy since it seems he was the fourth choice of naturalist for the journey but on 27 December 1831 he finally set sail on The Beagle and his work thereafter revolutionised the life sciences. After a heart attack Charles Darwin died aged 73 in April 1882 and in due course was buried in Westminster Abbey.

February meeting. The Real Basil Brown: from Rickinghall to Sutton Hoo. Sarah Doig, herself from Rickinghall in mid Suffolk, spoke to 38 attendees. Basil was a modest man and was little known outside his local area until firstly The National Trust took over the care of the Sutton Hoo estate, including the Anglo-Saxon burial mounds, in 1998 and secondly the Netflix film “The Dig” was released in 2021. He undertook many archaeological digs throughout his life and he put much effort into making detailed records of each one. Sarah spent nearly five years researching over 100 of his notebooks, with his scribbled writing, and numerous sketches. He also took many photographs but had a habit of cutting people’s heads off. Thirty-five of his desk diaries and several of his scientific documents still exist. In 1893, aged 5, he started at the local school in Rickinghall. He taught himself astronomy and gradually his interests settled on archaeology by day and astronomy by night. He left school at 13 and, to earn a living, went to work on the local farm where his father was employed but he kept up evening classes and gained knowledge in many subjects. He spent WWI at the farm having been assessed as medically unfit but the details are unknown. Soon after the war he met his wife, Dorothy. They married in 1923 and lived with Basil’s parents at Church Farm. His first publication was on astronomy in 1932 and also in 1932 he took on the tenancy of Church Farm. He was an inadequate farmer and by 1935 he was an odd job man living in a rented part of the local schoolhouse. From the mid-1930s he became better known as an archaeological expert. In 1934 he discovered Roman kilns at a major site at Foxledge Common near Rickinghall. Then he discovered and took 3 years to excavate a Roman villa at Stanton Chare. He met Guy Maynard, Curator of Ipswich Museum in 1934 and was taken on as assistant archaeologist.

On 20 June 1938 when aged 50 he first arrived at Sutton Hoo to investigate several large mounds. Maynard had negotiated for him to be employed by the helpful estate owner, Mrs Edith Pretty, at 30 shillings per week plus free accommodation with Mrs Pretty’s chauffeur. By early July, assisted by two of Mrs Pretty’s labourers, he had found iron rivets, iron bands and very fine pieces of glass from the Anglo-Saxon period which Basil recognised as an important ship burial. During WW2 he was a special constable, a member of the Observer Corps and worked in the NAAFI in Bury St Edmunds. He continued as a casual archaeologist for Ipswich Museum without holding a permanent job. He spent much time teaching history and archaeology to children in local schools. Although Dorothy and Basil had no children, they had many godchildren. He died at the age of 89 on 12 March 1977. In May 2023 a blue plaque was installed in his honour in Rickinghall.

Selwyn’s Alphanumeric Quiz. Part 6.

Back to the verbal numbers quiz because many readers find it more entertaining than the pop groups quiz. Example 1: 18 H on a GC. 18 Holes on a Golf Course. Example 2: 23 R C. H of T H. 23 Railway Cuttings. Home of Tony Hancock

1	15	M on a D M C	6	3	B on a B T
2	1	W on a U	7	7	D S
3	2	W on a B	8	7	W of the W
4	147	M B in S	9	360	D in a C
5	22	B on a S T	10	12	F K on a PC K

You will find the answers to this puzzle on page 17

Swavesey WI News

In January, members enjoyed a “Quiz with Fizz”. Questions were set by Leigh Clements and Carole Pook. A fun and chatty evening to start off 2026 for our WI.

In February, Amanda Sutherland a very talented costume designer returned to visit us with another one of her inspiring talks and presentation of her creative work. She is multi-talented and she brought so many examples of her designer creations for us to view and buy. Her talk this time mainly concentrated on how she re-works clothing to create new outfits. Lots of ideas for us all to take on board!

We look forward to our AGM in April and a new programme for the year ahead.

You can find us hosting Compass Cafe on the 4th Thursday of the month, do pop along for a chat, coffee and delicious cakes.

To find out more about your local WI, please contact the following: Glesny Sheppard 01954 201731/Deirdre Burgess 01954 230897.

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Saturday 27th June 2026

A BioBlitz is an event in which volunteers work together in small groups to find and identify as many species of plants, animals, birds, fungi, and other organisms as possible.

Come for an hour or stay all day—bring along a picnic

A free fun and informative experience for budding ecologists young and old

A BioBlitz can be a great hands-on way to interact with nature. You don’t need to be an expert. We will provide guides and you can use the iNaturalist app on your smartphone to photograph and identify the species you find. Experts will also be on hand to help. The iNaturalist data will be collated to create a biodiversity map of the orchard.

Activities and habitats will include:

- Early morning dawn chorus
- Pond dipping
- Moth overnight traps
- Hedgerows
- Orchard fruit trees
- Grasses and flowers
- Evening bat and bird walk
- Carpet refugia (carpet squares)

We hope to have pond dipping nets, butterfly nets, bat detector, moth traps, binoculars, hand lenses, microscope(s), wildlife cameras and aspirators for use or for demonstration on the day. If you can offer any equipment please get in touch.

The free Merlin app can be used on a smartphone to record and identify song birds

For more information on how you can be part of this event please contact Glyn Jones gj@2gsc.net 07977 907622

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MISCELLANY

Swavesey Library has a new home!

Do come and visit our lovely new library. Follow the signs at the front of Swavesey Village College by the mini roundabout.

Opening times are:
Tuesday afternoons 3.30pm - 5.30pm, Wednesday evenings 5pm – 7pm and Saturday mornings 10 – 12 noon.

New for 2026 –

- *Theme months*
- *Lego morning – Saturday 21st February*
- *Easter event – Saturday 4th April*

Hundreds of childrens' (picture books – young adults) books to borrow.

Order and return books from any Cambridgeshire Library.

Not a member? It's easy to join online or at the library. Swavesey Library is run by volunteers. Could you spare a couple of hours a month to join the team?

We look forward to welcoming you and your family

For further information – www.swavesey-pc.gov.uk/community/swavesey-your-library/ Swavesey Village Life on Facebook

or contact: Catherine 01954 232536 - evenings or Lorraine 01954 232478

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Answers to Selwyn's "Pop Groups Over the Decades" on page 11

1	15	M on a D M C	15 Men on a Dead Man's Chest
2	1	W on a U	1 Wheel on a Unicycle
3	2	W on a B	2 Wheels on a Bicycle
4	147	M B in S	147 Maximum Break in Snooker
5	22	B on a S T	22 Balls on a Snooker Table
6	3	B on a B T	3 Balls on a Billiard Table
7	7	D S	7 Deadly Sins
8	7	W of the W	7 Wonders of the World
9	360	D in a C	360 Degrees in a Circle
10	12	F K on a PC K	12 F Keys on a PC Keyboard

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Compass Café is run as a community event, a place to meet and chat. Your hosts are a group from one of:
Bethel Baptist Church, Girlguiding Units in Swavesey,
Swavesey Primary School PTA, St Andrew's Church
and Swavesey Women's Institute.

When there is a 5th Thursday in the month other groups are invited to run the café to fundraise. Please get in touch with Sue Ellington if you would like to know more.
sue.ellington@virgin.net or phone 07774 146331
Future 5th Thursday dates available in 2026: 30th Jul, 29th Oct

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Ben Suckling

University has always been as much about life-enhancing experiences as obtaining a qualification and former Swavesey Village College pupil Ben Suckling will long remember his boxing match on Leeds University's second Wilder Student Fight Night both for getting the win while raising a substantial amount for charity.

"We're mainly novice boxers," said Ben, 20, a third-year accountancy student at the University of Leeds. "My sister was involved in Wilder fight night at Loughborough a couple of years ago and it was an amazing experience for her, so it was a given that I'd be involved. It was a fantastic experience for me too. I'm not aggressive by nature but I've always like watching combat sports. Six weeks of training at a local Leeds gym was hard. The whole experience opened my eyes to just how tough and courageous boxers are. This was without doubt the most courageous thing I've ever done. I learnt a lot about myself."

"I'm delighted to have raised £715 for The Oddballs Foundation whose purpose is to raise awareness of testicular cancer which sadly affects many young men. They're the main charity partner for Wilder Fight Night." Organiser Sal Sinawi, also known as Wilder, said "Ben is to be congratulated on his fundraising and for his skill and courage displayed in the ring. We began our fundraising fight nights in Durham in 2021. Since then, we've raised over £700,000 for various charity partners including £24,000 at two Leeds events in 2025 including Ben's."

"I'm loving my time in Leeds,' enthused Ben. "I chose to study at the University of Leeds because it enjoys such a high-quality reputation and I'm enjoying my time in a large northern city with a great social vibe and that's easy to get around. I don't intend to box again but I might well continue with the training as this will help me maintain fitness when playing football for the University of Leeds team."

To find out more visit www.wilderfightnight.com and https://theoddballsfoundation.com/ for further information about Oddballs.

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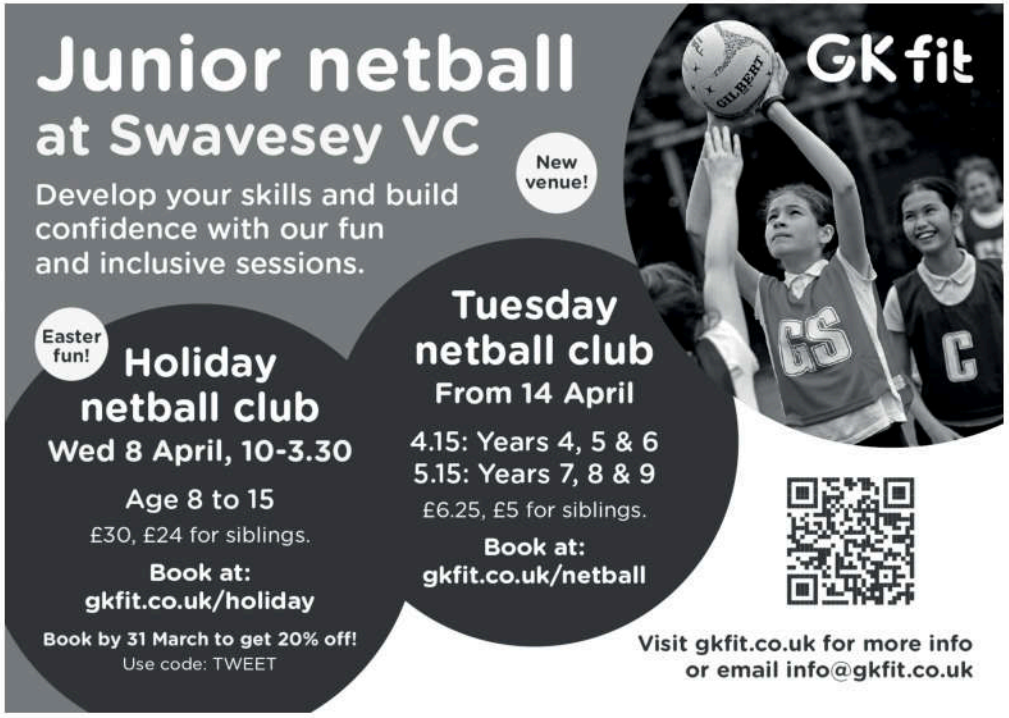
Swavesey Village College
www.swaveseyvc.co.uk/general-courses/



Girlguiding
Over district

We help all girls know they can do anything.

We show girls from 4 to 18 a world of possibilities big and small. One where every girl can laugh and learn and be herself. Girlguiding is what each girl wants it to be. It might be the thrill of doing something for the first time. Songs around a campfire. The buzz of getting a new badge. Coming home exhausted and full of stories. It's a space where she can be herself, get creative, explore, and most of all have fun.

How can I get involved?

You choose the volunteer role that matches your skills and time available. You can be a leader, a helper, a treasurer, a fundraiser, an administrator, a trainer, the list goes on and on...

"We're awesome as we help girls to thrive and grow because we are all part of a huge family"

Volunteer, Bedfordshire

Are you interested to find out more? Get in touch:

caroline@overroad.co.uk

https://www.girlguiding.org.uk/get-involved/become-a-volunteer

Rainbow, Brownie and Guide units in the area are recruiting volunteers.

You're amazing → Pass it on

PARISH & COUNTY NEWS

News From Your DC Sue Ellington

Hello All Swavesey Residents

I am very concerned that this may be the last Meridian. It is so important for the village to report community clubs and events as well as inform residents about progress with village issues, and raise concerns. Not everybody is online, but every household has copy of the M eridian and can check bin days, local tradesmen and upcoming events. If I can do anything to help maintain this valuable village treasure please let me know.

I think we are all aware that the Government sees the growth of Greater Cambridge as key to the growth of the country. As a result it has proposed the creation of a Greater Cambridge Development Corporation to help speed up the growth process. I am concerned that businessmen will be appointed by the Government to form the management board of the Corporation and will be given sweeping powers over planning, transport, and infrastructure; away from the elected and accountable local councils. I will be fighting to ensure that local people do not lose their democratic powers to determine how the area grows.

South Cambs District Council had already indicated they would hold the elections in May 26, but it will only be for a two year period as it develops into a Unitary Authority by combining with the County Council in 2028. As yet, the Government has not indicated which, if any, other District(s) will be included in our new Authority.

I hope this is not the last Meridian but whatever happens please contact me if I can help you with any issues 07774146331 or cllr.ellington@scambs.gov.uk

Best wishes
Cllr Sue Ellington
Swavesey Ward

SWAVESEY PARISH

Parish Council News January/February 2026

No increase in Parish Precept for 2026/27

At the January meeting the Parish Council set its Precept at £104,892 for the 2026/27 financial year. This being the level of funding required to carry out the functions and services of the Parish Council. This equates to keeping the Parish portion of the Council Tax at the same level as the current year 2025/26, ie no increase. For the fourth year running the Parish Council has kept to a Band D level of £95.27/year (£7.94/mth).

County and District Precept increases 2026/27

Cambs County Council has increased its portion of the Council Tax by 4.99%, which equates to a Band D level increase of £84.78/yr. Giving an average Band D charge of £1,785.64 per year.

South Cambs District Council proposes to increase the district element of the Council Tax by £5.24 per annum, giving an average Band D Council Tax of £180.64 per year.

County Council Business

Highways maintenance continues with various roads having had repairs carried out over the past two months. All highways defects can be reported by anyone via the County Council's online 'Report It' form linked to Cambridgeshire County Council's website (https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/top-tasks/report).

Traffic Calming Projects

- CCC has approved the proposals and implementation of the two speed reduction projects which were consulted on during December/January. The schemes for a 20mph limit through the village (although not including Boxworth End) plus speed reduction measures for Boxworth End and Ramper Rd were approved on 25th February. The full details can be viewed on the decision page of the CCC Website. There is also a link on the Traffic Calming pages of the Swavesey Parish Council website: www.swavesey-pc.gov.uk It is expected these two schemes will be installed during spring/summer of this year.
- The PC has now purchased three solar MVAS (speed monitor) units, for installation permanently in the Boxworth End area
- Two solar MVAS units will also be installed along Over Rd as part of the LHI funded project.
- Speedwatch. More volunteers are required. Please contact us if you would like to help: clerk@swavesey-pc.gov.uk

The PC continues to liaise with our County Councillor to discuss all the outstanding issues. A monthly report from Cllr Chris Poulton is also published on our website at https://www.swavesey-pc.gov.uk/the-council/county-district-councillors/.

Mobile Phone Signal

The Parish Council has for the past 18 months or so, been discussing with Connecting Cambridgeshire (CCC) and a signal tower company, as to how the mobile phone signal could be improved around the village. This progresses with a potential new mast site being investigated.

COUNCIL NEWS

District Council

The PC recently returned comments on several major consultations around future planning decisions including the Gtr Cambridge Draft Local Plan; proposed logistics development sites; MHCLG proposals for a Development Corporation for Gtr Cambridge; Gtr Cambridge Planning CIL infrastructure Levy draft charging schedule.

Also on the next stages of the Local Government Reorganisation proposals.

70-home housing development site

The Parish Council continues to liaise with the contractor, CCC Highways and Planning Officers regarding the impact of these works during construction on the village. During February highway safety issues escalated with HGVs queued up along Boxworth End during school start times. Hill acted and hopefully this has now eased. A tarmac entrance road has also been put into the development site so that the delivery lorries can gain access and wait inside the site. Contractor vehicle parking is now also available inside the site. Updates will be published on the Parish Council website as the project progresses.

Village Maintenance & Projects

March 8th is a National Day of Reflection commemorating the Covid19 Pandemic. A blossom tree, donated by South Cambs District Council, was planted on Market Street Green as part of the commemorations.

Admin

Frere Cottages Charity – the PC has nominated two new trustees to this charity.

Policy reviews – a few statutory policies which the PC must have in place were reviewed.

The PC also pledged to sign up to the Civility & Respect Pledge for Local Government.

Elections May 2026

This May the Parish Cllr term of office ends and nominations will be taken for the next four-year term. The nomination period opens on 30th March and closes on 9th April at 4pm. Those wishing to stand as a candidate for the Parish Council election will need to complete a nomination form which goes back to the Electoral Office at South Cambs District Council. If anyone would like further information on what is involved in becoming a Parish Councillor please do contact the Clerk. General information can also be found on the Parish Council's website (https://www.swavesey-pc.gov.uk/the-council/how-to-become-a-parish-councillor/).

Great British Spring Clean!

On Sunday 22nd March, Swavesey Litterpicker Group organised a community litterpick around the village. This is the third year this has taken place with, again, excellent support from residents.

Further details on everything that is discussed at the Parish Council meetings can be found in the Minutes and on the Council's website at www.swavesey-pc.gov.uk

Swavesey Annual Parish Meeting
Weds 15th April 2026
7.30pm, Swavesey Memorial Hall

Your opportunity to hear reports from and ask questions of the Parish Council, its committees, village charities, other village organisations and your County and District Councillors on items over the past year and for the forthcoming year.

Please do come along to the meeting to learn more about your village

Swavesey Parish Council

Swavesey Parish Council	**Website: swavesey-pc.gov.uk**	
Parish Councillors	**Telephone (01954)**	**E-mail address**
Doug Hunt (Chairman)	232478	dhunt@swavesey-pc.gov.uk
Colin Parsons (Vice-Chair)	610357	cparsons@swavesey-pc.gov.uk
Lisa Boyes	07747 002296	lboyes@swavesey-pc.gov.uk
James Dodson	230560	jdodson@swavesey-pc.gov.uk
Martin Johnston	200605	mjohnston@swavesey-pc.gov.uk
Warren Wright	203172	wwright@swavesey-pc.gov.uk
Jonathan Kerley	231304	jkerley@swavesey-pc.gov.uk
Rachel Vollerthun	07312 102526	rvollerthun@swavesey-pc.gov.uk
Sue Ellington	202923 / 07774 146331	sellington@swavesey-pc.gov.uk
Sue Rogers	0777 224 7673	srogers@swavesey-pc.gov.uk
Paul Twinn	01954 488578	ptwinn@swavesey-pc.gov.uk
Clerk: Linda Miller	202982 / 07458 302193	clerk@swavesey-pc.gov.uk
District Councillor: Sue Ellington	07774 146331	cllr.ellington@scambs.gov.uk
County Councillor: Chris Poulton Papworth & Swavesey Ward	Chris.Poulton@cambridgeshire.gov.uk https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/council/county-councillors	
Memorial Hall Administrator: Nicole Mullee	07963 861791	memorialhall@swavesey.org.uk

Swavesey Parish Council meets on the 2nd Thursday of each month for Planning items and on the 4th Monday of each month for Full Council.

All meetings are held in the Memorial Hall at 7.30pm. There is always a 10 minute public forum at the start of the meeting.

Sacred Heart Roman Catholic Church
St. Ives, Cambridgeshire
PE27 5JT

THE SACRED PASCHAL TRIDUUM SERVICES

	MAUNDY THURSDAY – 2nd APRIL 2026 **MASS OF THE LORD'S SUPPER** *Watch at the Altar of repose till 12:00 midnight*	7pm
	GOOD FRIDAY – 3RD APRIL 2026 **THE CELEBRATION OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD** *STATIONS OF THE CROSS AT 7PM*	3pm
	EASTER VIGIL - SATURDAY 4TH APRIL **THE EASTER VIGIL IN THE HOLY NIGHT**	8pm

EASTER SUNDAY – 5TH APRIL 2026

EASTER DAY SUNDAY 5TH APRIL 2026	**NORMAL MASSES** 9 AM & 11 AM.

SACRED HEART RC PARISH HALL
AVAILABLE FOR HIRE

Sacred Heart St Ives
19 Needingworth Rd, St. Ives,
Cambridgeshire, PE27 5JT

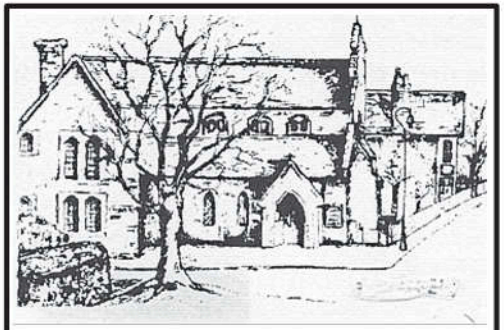
Suitable for Community Groups,
Conferences & Meetings,
Coffee mornings, Classes & Parties.

Our parish hall is now available to rent at £20 an hour An additional fee of £25 will be applied for use of the kitchen. Guest WiFi available

Please enquiry on tel.:
(+44) 1480 462 192

e- mail:
office@sacredheart-stives.org.uk

Website:
www.sacredheart-stives.org.uk/the-church-hall



SACRED HEART OF JESUS
Roman-Catholic Parish
19 Needingworth Road, St Ives, Cambs. PE27 5JT

Priest in Charge: Fr Trindade J Monteiro

Tel: 01480 462 192
www.sacredheart-stives.org.uk
email: office@sacredheart-stives.org.uk

Mass Times:
Saturday 17.00 (Anticipatory)
Sunday 09.00 and 11.00

Services at St Andrew's

Please join us for worship at 11am on any Sunday morning including, on the fourth Sunday of the month, our All Together Worship Service. At 8pm on the first Thursday of every month, we have fifteen minutes of silence and prayer followed by Compline remembering the people of Ukraine and other countries affected by war. If there is a fifth Sunday in the month, you may find us worshipping in any of our four benefice churches.

Easter Services:

There will be a range of services during Holy Week:

March 29th: Palm Sunday: 11am: Holy Communion
April 2nd: Maundy Thursday: 7:30pm: Holy Communion
April 3rd: Good Friday: 3pm: Poetry and meditations on the Stations of the Cross
April 5th: Easter Sunday:
6:30am – 7:30am: Easter Dawn Service (details to be confirmed)
11am: Holy Communion

You can find information about all our services and events on Facebook and online at A Church near You: https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/2834/service-and-events/events-all/

Ministry Team

Rev'd Stephen Dove (Team Rector): stephen@5folds.org.uk.
Rev'd Ed Green (Team Vicar): ed@5folds.org.uk
Canon Jan Payne (Licensed Lay Minister): jan@5folds.org.uk
Colin Smith (Benefice Administrator): 01954 203459 - admin@5folds.org.uk
Churchwardens: Jacqui Fuller: 01954 230774 and Bridget Lofts: 01954 231195

Diddy Disciples Sunday School

This is our Sunday School for younger children. We sing songs, draw and make things and most of all, learn about Jesus. We meet every Sunday at the back of church. Do join us.

Emmaus House Group

We are a small group of people who meet every other Wednesday morning on Zoom to learn more about God through studying the Bible. We choose our own subjects and ask lots of questions but don't always find the answers! More details from Nicky Carne: nicky_carne@hotmail.com or the churchwardens.

Craft Group

Our group meets every other Wednesday to work together on group activities; have you seen our decorations on the carpark cross? You can bring your own craft activity to work on or just come to enjoy the company over a hot drink and cake. Details from Jacqui Fuller: jacqui_fuller@hotmail.com

Compass Café "Encompasses the community"

Meet us at Swavesey's Community Café - Compass Café every third Thursday of the month, 10:30am – 12 noon.
Enjoy our wonderful cakes and coffee.

Events at St Andrew's in 2026

Here are a few dates to put in your diaries:
Easter Fair with Easter Egg Tombola: Saturday, 28th March, 2.00 – 4.00 pm
Plant Sale – Saturday, 16th May 10.00 am
Teddy Bear Zip Wire – Saturday, 27th June, 2.00 – 4.00 pm
Crafternoon – Saturday, 3rd October

St Andrew's Plant Sale
Saturday, May 16th
10am

See social media for details

BETHEL
BAPTIST CHURCH

Club Vintage - Wednesdays 2-4pm

A warm welcome awaits older people and the club is dementia-friendly. There is a small £3 weekly charge. Enjoy a rotating variety of activities such as chair-based exercise, singing, bible-based crafts, quizzes, games and entertainment from others.

Compass Café - Thursdays 10:30am-12pm

You will receive a very warm welcome at our community run cafe. Enjoy reasonably priced coffee, tea and homemade cakes.

LITTLE LIGHTS - Fridays 10am-12pm

Baby & toddler group. All are welcome, bumps, babies, toddlers, parents and carers. Drop in at anytime for as long as you need. Only £2 per family, including drinks & snacks for all! We hope you can come along and join us!

The Hub - Youth Group - Fridays 7-9pm

Open to all year 6 and secondary aged children. Come along and meet up with friends, chat, play games, listen to music and much more! Snack bar also available. £1 entry fee. Parents must complete a permission form.

Sunday Services - Sundays 10:45am

You are warmly invited to join us for our weekly services followed by coffee in our compass room. Our services are open to all and are family friendly with children's Sunday School groups for all ages! Every first Sunday of the month is our alternative all age, café-style service which include refreshments around tables, conversation and maybe even some crafts! We have a special Communion service once a month on the 3rd Sunday. At Bethel we are brought together by our Faith, but what truly makes us family is our passion to serve God and love one another through every season.

Easter AT BETHEL

Easter is fast approaching and there is lots going on at Bethel Baptist Church:

Good Friday Reflections - 6:30pm Friday 3rd April @ Bethel Baptist Church.

Sunrise Service - 6:00am Sunday 5th April @ Fen Drayton Lakes (Jetty opposite the RSPB car park).

All-age Easter Service - 10.45am Sunday 5th April @ Bethel Baptist Church

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Upcoming events for your diaries:

An Evening of Music & Testimony

7:00pm Friday 24th April @ Bethel Baptist Church - Come along to an all-age concert as we host a visiting group of singers and musicians.

Comberton Gospel Choir

7:00pm Saturday 27th June @ Bethel Baptist Church - Comberton Gospel Choir are returning for an exciting evening of Gospel music.

CONTACT US

Pastor Bob - pastorbob@bethelbaptistchurch.org.uk
Sue Hope (Secretary) - secretary@bethelbaptistchurch.org.uk
Charlotte Holmár (Administrator) - admin@bethelbaptistchurch.org.uk

www.bethelbaptistchurch.org.uk *www.facebook.co.uk/SwaveseyBethel*

Spring is on the way

As the evenings are beginning to get lighter and the cold wet weather begins to fade from our memory, it's time to start getting outside and looking for nature's cues that spring is on the way. It is possibly the most popular season as we all look for the riot of colour in the gardens around us, the birds treat us with their morning song; we hear the buzzing of bees and get the first glimpse of a butterfly.

Spring is also great time to do some spring cleaning, a time to get back in the shed and take a fresh look so that we can get out of the rut of the winter routine. The energy that spring inspires in us energises us to get creative, so it's also a good time to maybe visit a museum or gallery, or admire your favourite view, have a go at a new creative craft, or even write some poetry.

This season of spring creates in us a sense of renewal and new hope with all the promise of a fresh start, maybe even a clean slate and potential transformation in our life and circumstances. For me, the change of the seasons is a sign that we are a part of something that is far greater than ourselves, and it is humbling to consider that we are participants in the created order. Spring then, is more than the evidence of new life all around us, the brighter fresher days and the sounds of busyness. It is a time to reflect on our routines, our focus and our purpose in life. It is a time to consider whether we are givers or takers.

The kettle is on, come on let's have a chat about it.

Pastor Bob Adams

Bethel Baptist Church.

CHIROPODIST/ PODIATRIST

I can offer a professional service

For further details please ring
01954 201256
07494 196065

Biomechanical assessments & orthotic therapy also available.

Michelle Dolan
HCPC Registered Chiropodist/Podiatrist
CH34864

e-mail: michelledolan@outlook.com

Community Groups & Charities

Swavesey Sustainability Hub	The Sustainability Hub is a community group that offers space and support for people to realise their ideas for a more sustainable way of life. Contact: rvollerthun@gmail.com Website: www.thesustainabilityhub.biz
Sheddit!	Sheddit! is the community shed for Swavesey and surrounding areas. The group works on a range of projects and welcome new members who enjoy making things from wood and metal. Contact: Phil Cohen 07957 422292 Website: https://shareborrowconnect.org/
Cam Sight	Cam Sight is a local charity which offers support to anyone with a visual impairment, along with their family and carers. We meet on the 4th Wednesday afternoon of each month in Bar Hill. For more information please telephone Joan in Bar Hill on 01954 200622 or Alison at Cam Sight on 01223 420033 or email alison@camsight.org.uk. For more info see:- www.camsight.org.uk
Cambridgeshire Hearing Help	CHH is a charity that helps people with hearing loss. Volunteers service NHS hearing aids and provide batteries and they attend Swavesey quarterly at Thistle Green. Advice on any aspects of hearing loss is available at a hearing help session or by calling the office on 01223 416141, E-mail: enquiries@cambridgeshirehearinghelp.org.uk Website: cambridgeshirehearinghelp.org.uk
Care Network	Care Network supports volunteers, encourages independence and develops good neighbour projects. We provide the Welcome Home from Hospital service across Cambridgeshire. Contact:- Care Network, 5 Broadway House, 149-151 St Neots Rd, Hardwick, Cambridge, CB23 7QJ (tel: 01954 211919). Website: care-network.org.uk/
Compass Cafe	Meets every Thursday morning from 10.30 until 12.00 at Bethel Baptist Church. Contact Sue Ellington on 01954 202923 or sue.ellington@virgin.net
Dog Lovers of Swavesey	Dog Lovers of Swavesey is a friendly group where anyone with a love for dogs is welcome with or without dog. Meetings are on the Recreation Green organised through the Facebook group at https://www.facebook.com/groups/dogloversofswavesey where we also exchange tips, ask for advice or have a laugh. Resources are gathered at https://dogloversofswavesey.co.uk/. Contact: Matt at matthewyoung1@btinternet.com or Anita at anita.faul@outlook.com" Tel 01954 232791
Swavesey Library	A volunteer run community library based in Swavesey Village College. We are able to providing a full range of library facilities being directly linked to the Cambridgeshire County Council library service. For more info see:- https://www.swavesey-pc.gov.uk/community/swavesey-your-library/
East Anglia's Children's Hospice (EACH)	Put your free time to good use and volunteer at East Anglia's Children's Hospice (EACH) in Milton. Volunteering at a children's hospice doesn't always mean care work and fundraising as there are also tasks such as admin and maintenance of the grounds. Contact:- Clare Bates on 01223 815134, Email: clare.bates@each.org.uk
OWLS Community Car Scheme	Run by DBS checked volunteers the scheme offers a door-to-door service, for medical or some social journeys, to people who are unable to access other forms of transport. Ring 07505 254363 to book a journey, find out more, or to volunteer as a driver Website: https://www.swavesey-pc.gov.uk/community/owls-community-car-scheme/

CLUB INFORMATION

Army Cadets UK	Swavesey Detachment, No 2 (Cromwell) Company, Cambridgeshire Army Cadet Force meets each Tuesday evening at the Swavesey Village College from 7 pm. New recruits are welcomed from ages 12 years (year 8) to 18 years. www.armycadets.com/county/cambridgeshire-acf/
Swavesey Five-a-Side Football Club	Currently seeking new members for this long-established club. We play each Wednesday evening from 6:30 to 7:30pm in the new sports hall at Swavesey Village College. Enquiries to Stewart Smith (07803 050234).
Swavesey Girlguiding	<table><tr><th>Unit</th><th>Evening</th><th>Contact</th></tr><tr><td>1st Swavesey Rainbows</td><td>Thursdays</td><td>caroline@overroad.co.uk</td></tr><tr><td>1st Swavesey Brownies</td><td>Mondays</td><td>swaveseybrownies@outlook.com</td></tr><tr><td>2nd Swavesey Brownies</td><td>Wednesdays</td><td>secondswaveseybrownies@outlook.com</td></tr><tr><td>1st Swavesey Guides</td><td>Thursdays</td><td>swaveseyguides@gmail.com</td></tr><tr><td>1st Swavesey Rangers</td><td>Thursdays</td><td>swaveseyrangers@gmail.com</td></tr></table>
Swavesey Spartans	Swavesey Spartans (swaveseyspartans.co.uk) is a Chartered Standard Football Club affiliated to Cambridgeshire Football Association. The club delivers football for children aged 6 and above. The club helps with the transition to open age football. Colts football ceases at the end of a player's Under 18 season. Open age football for men in Swavesey is available through Swavesey Institute FC (separate entry in this section of the Meridian). Swavesey Spartans FC have an open age football team for ladies playing league games on a Sunday. For more information about Spartans please contact Paul Clarke (swavesey.chairperson@gmail.com) or Mrs Paula Land (swavesey.secretary@gmail.com
1st Swavesey Scout Group	All sections meet at the Scout Hut on the SVC site **Beavers** Day: Thursday 18:00 to 19:00 Contact: John Pawson - Beaver Leader john.pawson@1stswaveseyscoutgroup.org.uk **Cubs** Day: Tuesday 18:15 to 19:30 Contact: Steven Wilson - Cub Leader steven.wilson@1stswaveseyscoutgroup.org.uk **Scouts** Day: Wednesday 19:00 to 20:30 Contact : Marian Bentley - Scout Leader Marian.Bentley@1stswaveseyscoutgroup.org.uk For any other enquiries please email info@1stswaveseyscoutgroup.org.uk
Swavesey Early Years and Playwork Centre	Swavesey Early Years and Playwork Centre are based in their own purpose-built unit on the primary school site. It comprises Early Years children (aged from 2 years and 6 Months) between 9am and 3pm (formerly Swavesey Pre School) and we provide activities and care for primary school aged children before and after school. Breakfast Club runs from 7.30 am to 9am and After School Club from 3.15pm to 6pm. For information please contact Carol Panther (Early Years and Playwork Manager) by email: eyandp@swavesey.cambs.sch.uk or by phone (01954) 273312 Ext 2 or 07803 812221.
Swavesey Community Choir	If you enjoy singing and having fun then come and join Swavesey Community Choir. We meet every Wednesday evening in term time at Fenstanton Church Centre, School Lane, Fenstanton from 7.30pm - 9pm. You don't need to be able to read music and no auditions needed, tenor and bass voices particularly welcome. For further details contact Julie Holmes julieholmes78@gmail.com Website: www.swaveseycommunitychoir.co.uk

British Tang Soo Do Institute	British Tang Soo Do Institute practices the Korean martial art of Tang Soo Do. Our club training covers self defence techniques and many aspects of fitness including flexibility, coordination, conditioning, balance and discipline helping to promote a healthy lifestyle. For further information please contact Master Jeff Cockram on 07863 345681 or jeff@btsdi.co.uk Or see our website: www.btsdi.com
Swavesey Tang Soo Do Club	Swavesey Tang Soo Do have classes on a Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. Classes are in the primary school main hall at 6pm. The contact details are Master Louise Morton on 07919 050261 or email enquiries@swaveseytsd.co.uk. The website is www.swaveseytsd.co.uk
Allotments in Swavesey	Down Hale Road towards the windmill and on the right there are 61 plots, mostly 150 sq yds (125 m2) in area, backed up by eight water tanks. Large yields of a wide range of high quality vegetable, fruit and flower crops can be grown successfully. If you are interested in joining the waiting list contact Val Sage Tel (01954) 230853
British Legion	For information contact:- Secretary - Angela Dye. (01954) 277453. email: dyeangela0@gmail.com
Swavesey Badminton Club	Located at the Swavesey Village College Sports Centre.The Club offers a high standard of play at club nights on Tuesdays 7pm to 8pm and on Fridays from 6.30pm to 9.30pm. We play competitive badminton in the Cambridge leagues and run men's, women's and mixed teams.Contact Helen Taylor on (01954) 230997 Email: enquiries@swaveseybadminton.net Website: www.swaveseybadminton.net
Swavesey Billiards and Snooker Club	For information/membership please contact Graeme Waites (01954 230113) Email graham.waites566@btinternet.com
Swavesey Camera Club	At Swavesey Camera Club we are proud to cater for photographers of all standards. For more information visit our website at:- www.swaveseycameraclub.co.uk. We meet every Thursday, 7.00 - 9.30pm, 'Carole Shaw Room, SVC. Non-members welcome - £4 charge (first visit free). For further details please ring Simon Shore (01954) 230848
Swavesey Squash Club	Swavesey Squash Club has three international standard squash courts, in our recently refurbished clubhouse, on the Swavesey Village College site. The club has a number of weekly sessions running, suitable for beginners, improvers, and more advanced players. Unlimited use of the facility from £17 a month. A welcoming and active community club with social events and opportunities for competition. Visit our website for more details or contact Ali Loke on 07776 176866/ ali@alilokesquash.com. www.swaveseysquash.com
Swavesey & Over Cycling Club	We meet regularly throughout the year, with rides most weekends and also weekdays on spring and summer evenings. As a Cycling UK affiliated club our goal is to explore a joint passion for cycling in a safe, inclusive and social way. We aim to organise events throughout the year from day & weekend rides in the UK and long weekend trips in Europe. Contact: John Craven Email: socccommittee@gmail.com Facebook: https://bit.ly/3GJCksZ_SOCC or Website: https://swaveseyovercc.wixsite.com/socc

Fireflies Netball Club	Friendly local club, everyone welcome, from back-to-netballers to seasoned players. We have teams playing in CDNL and Fenland Netball leagues. Training is on Tuesdays 7-8:30pm at Northstowe Secondary School. First month is free. £15 per month thereafter. Contact firefliesnetballclub@gmail.com for more information.
Over & Willingham Cricket Club	We have 2 open age (adult) cricket teams in the Cambridgeshire Saturday afternoon league playing 40 over cricket between the start of May and the end of. August. If you are interested in joining our club, please get in touch with one of the club officials, come along to one of our training sessions or approach any club member on our matchdays (Saturday's). Contact Jane Reeson if you are interested. email - reesonhkx46k@aol.com; Telephone 07768 540146; or Facebook - Over and Willingham CC, or Website - overandwillingham.play-cricket.com
Swavesey Music School	Meets every Saturday of term time at Swavesey Village College. For further details see: www.swaveseymusic.co.uk/
Swavesey District Bridleway Association	A liaison group representing local horse riders whose main aim is to protect existing and create safe new horse riding links between all local villages. New members welcome. Regular Newsletter/ Social events calendar. Please contact Sue Rogers (01954) 232758
Swavesey & District History Society	Meet every third Tuesday in the month, 7.30pm, Carole Shaw room, SVC. Contact Carolyn Redmayne, Secretary (01954) 230037
Swavesey Institute Football Club	Swavesey Institute FC have 2 teams in the Cambs County Saturday afternoon leagues. For information about the club or if you are interested in playing open age (adult) football for the village please contact Martin Pickering on 07737 391445
Linedance	Linedance classes held on Wednesday mornings at the Bethel Baptist Church 9-30 to 11-30 am. Beginners always welcome. Contact Deborah Walker (01954) 231382 Email: deborahwalker105@talktalk.net
Swavesey & Over Conservation Society	At the moment we organise interesting walks If you need a lift: Phone: Trevor Grange - 01954 230119 or Pat Miles - (01954) 780485. Guests Are Always Welcome!
Swavesey & Over Tennis Club	Swavesey & Over Tennis Club: Club nights are Mondays and Fridays, 6.30-8.30pm. We welcome new members - further information our website https://swaveseyovertennis.wixsite.com/sotc, or you can email us on SwaveseyOverTennis@gmail.com, or call Steve 07393 825027 or Melanie 07453 523999.
Swavesey RADSoc	Friendly local drama group staging two or three productions a year.New members always welcome.Contact: Nathalie Balzano: nathaliewoodward@hotmail.com Visit our website at www.swaveseyradsoc.org.uk
Swavesey W.I.	We meet every second Monday of the month at 7.30pm in the Memorial Hall. New members are always welcome to enjoy a variety of invited speakers and have a chat and cup of tea/coffee afterwards. For further information contact Margaret Guest tel (01954) 202757
Women's Walking	Women's Walking on Mondays and Fridays at 10:00am. Meet on Market Street green. Walk for approximately one hour on pathways in and around Swavesey. A chance to exercise and chat. - Reasonably robust footwear recommended. All welcome.

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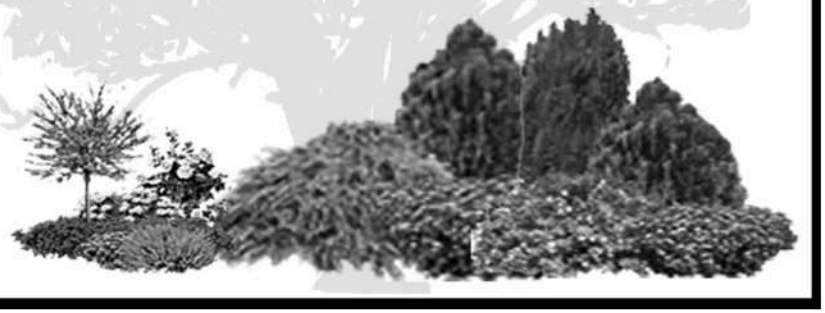

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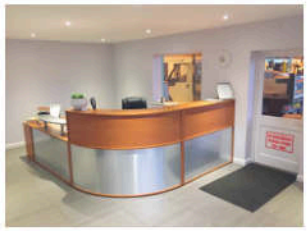

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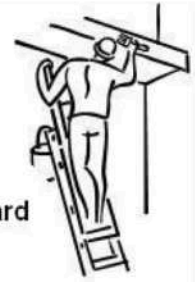

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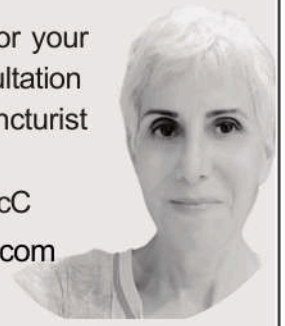

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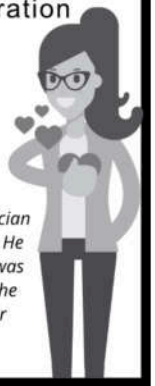

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It is hoped this will avoid major events clashing on the same day. Please send to the Editor, editor@swaveseymeridian.org.uk

Event _____

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Contact Name _____ Tel No. _____

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